AS I LAY DYING
AWAKENED

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CAUTERIZE

The truth of my heart is like a repressed tale
A censored and silenced story
Repression or restraint, it is a delicate balance
Between bleeding out what will make me drown
And closing in what i cannot afford to spill
Either way, i must cauterize, cauterize the open wound

I'm caught between the feeling
Of being pulled apart or stuffed into a cell

And if these are the only options
This will always be hell (never-ending)
Though i may still be breathing
There is no quality of life
So i choose to risk it all for you
For you to be by my side

I'm caught between the feeling
Of being pulled apart or stuffed into a cell

A crowd is easy to deceive
But now i am a patient on the table
I'll give you the knife
Cut away as you see fit
Just promise me the patience
To wait for me to heal

A GREATER FOUNDATION

Reality no longer battles perception
This letter's written to no one

Sincere, i sought your truth and divine purpose
Through myths of revelation
Guidance all wrapped up in a paper box
Supported only so long as my mind was the enemy
I could not in conscience hold on

As we face distress we must not lose heart
Stand fast and press on, triumph awaits (us)

The powerful constant that i had once leaned on
Is no longer there (no longer)
You call this shameful disbelief
A process like losing my closest friend

As we face distress we must not lose heart
Stand fast and press on, triumph awaits (us)

Sometimes we have to watch our whole lives fall apart
Before we can rebuild them again, a greater foundation
We watch our whole lives
(sometimes we have to watch our whole lives)
Fall apart
(before we can rebuild them again)
Rebuild them again
A greater foundation

I wish there was another way
But no amount of devotion can fix this

Triumph awaits

Sometimes we have to watch our whole lives fall apart
Before we can rebuild them again, a greater foundation

RESILIENCE

Your resilience inspires me
Facing tragedies i will never face
Your presence is humbling
To think of all that you have overcome
It took such little pain
For our lives to coalesce
Finding what i could've found in no one else

You bring me through the darkness of myself
And show me that frailty can be turned to strength

Suffering
Persistence
Such sorrow
Yet resilience

From the outside i've deceived the world
With false bravery
Yet you have taught me so much more
Much more than i can ever teach
And someday you might
Need someone to lean on

I can only hope that i'll have gained the courage
To be there for you in whatever you face
You bring me through (you bring me through)
The darkness of myself
And show me that frailty (can be turned)
Can be turned to strength

Suffering
Persistence
Such sorrow
Yet resilience

At times i'm carried on the shoulders of a child
I find power in your firm fallibility
My source of hope is seeing the weak prevail
And i'm better able to live because you're alive
I could not imagine a world without you
Where i looked you in the eyes and left you to die

WASTED WORDS

There are days when sorrow seems never-ending
Like the countless roads upon which i've driven
The price of attachment in pursuit of dreams
That i so often can't seem to remember
Yet there are days when beauty cannot be contained
It even crawls out from under ordinary things

A foreigner, no place to go
Holding on, making the most
Of what little time i have

All the wasted words i said
In all the cities that i left
The last act of our precious play
Must not close with regret

I will not leave wishing i had done things differently

The moments i treasure are seldom the ones
That i planned for
And if i knew where pain hid i might still let it go
So when the audience has run toward the latest drift
It will be my time to face the life that i have set

A foreigner in my own home
Holding on, no place to go

All the wasted words i said
In all the cities that i left
The last act of our precious play
Must not close with regret (regret)
All the wasted words

Some days the line between peace
And pain seems more like blur
But i know with certainty
I can't leave wishing, i cannot leave
I can't leave wishing i'd done things differently

WHISPERING SILENCE

Each little piece begins to stack up
Now suffering under the weight of my choices
And i hardly recognize myself
Somewhere along the line
There stopped being lines at all
(whispering silence)

Whispering silence
The subtle contradiction
Compromise creeps in
Forgetting who i once was
Slowly changing
Who i once was

Each moment seemed so small
When looked at by itself
But it adds up
And it has torn me down
All lines are gone
(whispering silence)

Whispering silence
The subtle contradiction
Compromise creeps in
Forgetting who i once was
Slowly changing
Who i once was

So close to the truth
But still impossible
It was never one thing
And too many to try to add up
Fueled by faint deception
Conflict without acknowledging opposition

All because i had taken pride in my hidden lies

Whispering silence
The subtle contradiction
Compromise creeps in
Forgetting who i once was
Slowly changing
Who i once was
It was never one thing
And too many to try to add up

All because i had taken pride in my hidden lies .

OVERCOME

All these moments of pain
Must add up to something
Our bodies have been trained to keep it all in
But our hearts still hold on

Some say to release it, forget about your past
Instead we count the cost, it's part of us
That doesn't mean that we cannot move on
It's just a memory of what we once were

No matter what it is we've faced
It's now part of us (part of us)
We can overcome

Why rid of fuel that can make us stronger
When properly put behind us? (put behind us)
And in the same way that
Everything good in life can be taken away
So can all this pain

No matter what it is we've faced
It's now part of us (part of us)
No matter what we've faced in this life
We can overcome

Trying to forget is a burden we can never bear
When facing trials openly
There's nothing left to hide
New paths of strength come alive

We can overcome

NO LUNGS TO BREATHE

I fought who i am inside
Until i wanted, i wanted to die
Instead of finding balance i found hatred
Consumed by failures and ignoring my own strengths
Pushed out sea without learning to swim
Or stranded in the desert with no lungs to breathe

With no lungs to breathe
I had almost lost everything

How can i be expected to readily be content
With a view of life that has rejected
The basis of what has helped me to survive?
And replaced them with precepts
Rather than instruction
Full rule is an illusion (illusion)
All i can do contain selfishness
And unveil what little power we may have

With no lungs to breathe
I had almost lost everything (everything)

Tearing away my flesh before taking
The time to understand it
A miracle may not be the answer
(tearing away my flesh)
When anchoring first on what i have
(before taking the time to understand it)
The ability to change

Like being stranded in the desert
With no lungs to breathe

With no lungs to breathe
I had almost lost everything (everything)

DEFENDER

Defender

Fighting so hard to be heard
Yet having nothing to say
You talk about changing masses
But forget those close to you

Most of us have given up
On these words that all sound the same
But i am still willing to believe
If you have done all that you can

You can justify almost anything
If you are willing to be loud enough
But once you've spent everything
To change the world around you
Even if your voice is taken away
Such actions will still inspire

Most of us have given up
On these words that all sound the same
But i am still willing to believe
If you have done all that you can

Drained
Spent
Determined
Intent
Now you've earned the right to be heard

We've been deceived by elegant speech
Whose only concern is mere distraction

Defender

Drained
Spent
Determined
Intent
Now you've earned the right to be heard

I will follow to the grave
A man who's willing to die

Most of us have given up
On these words that all sound the same
But i am still willing to believe
If you have done all that you can

I am willing to die
Defender

MY ONLY HOME

Like a swarm of flies colliding with a moving windshield
So are our lives on this never-ending road
I have left behind my mark only to be later washed away
And was consumed with the allure despite the inevitable decay

When did the road that i'm on become my only home?
When did this become the one place i truly know? (i truly know)

A journey making us like weeds
Where the wind steals our splendor
But spreads it to the distant fields
Despite our fragile imperfections
Yet shaking walls and wearing wheels
Can never capture my heart the way you do

When did the road that i'm on become my only home? (my only home)
When did this become the one place i truly know?

I am missing what makes me whole

TEAR OUT MY EYES

The storm is coming and i have a choice
To accept nature or lose my voice
Shall i scream and plead for nothing
Or build a roof over my head?
I mourn the days that i wasted
Trying to change what has been set
Fighting against myself

Before i tear, tear out my eyes
I'll just admit they're part of me

I've labelled enemies who do not hate me
And then claimed friends who could care less
All an unnecessary struggle
So now i truly know what it means to repent
Changing everything

Before i tear, tear out my eyes
I'll just admit they're part of me
(they're part of me)

Instead of fighting against myself
I will open my eyes
To find who needs me
I am awakened
I am awakened

Produced by Bill Stevenson, As I Lay Dying, and Jason Livermore
Engineered by Bill Stevenson, Jason Livermore, and Andrew Berlin
Assistant engineers: Daniel Castleman & Chris Beeble
Mixed by Colin Richardson at Treehouse Studios in Derbyshire, UK
Mix engineer: Carl Brown
Mastered by Ted Jensen at Sterling Sound
Drums and Guitar tracked at The Blasting Room in Ft. Collins, CO
Bass and Vocals tracked at Lambesis Studios in San Diego, CA
Additional Vocals recorded at Echelon Studios
Additional backing vocals by Joey Bradford
Synth programming on "Wasted Words" by Phil Sgrosso
Gang vocals by Loniel Robinson, Matt JR, Lora JR, Bill Stevenson, Jordan Mancino, Joey Bradford, Joey St Lucas, Amanda Dubord, Vince Bifano, Robert Pine, Willow, Matt Geise

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Lyrics by Tim Lambesis
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Legal: Ian J. Friedman
Booking (North/South America) - Nick Storch at ICM Talent
Booking (International) - Paul Ryan at The Agency Group
Business Management: Eric Briner and Mark Zelasko at Rob Shore and Associates, Inc.

www.asilaydying.com

Jordan Mancino
Drums

Tim Lambesis
Vocals

Phil Sgrosso
Guitar

Nick Hipa
Guitar

Josh Gilbert
Bass & Vocals

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